



**BILLING CODE: 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XE475**

**SAW-SARC 61 Public Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS and the Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) will convene the 61st SAW Stock Assessment Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing the stock assessment of Atlantic surfclam. The Northeast Regional SAW is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic. Assessments are prepared by SAW working groups and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts called the Stock Assessment Review Committee, or SARC. The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

**DATES:** The public portion of the Stock Assessment Review Committee Meeting will be held from July 19, 2016, through July 21, 2016. The meeting will commence on July 19, 2016, at 10 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC),

166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sheena Steiner, 508-495-2177; e-mail:

*sheena.steiner@noaa.gov*; or, James Weinberg, 508-495-2352; e-mail:

*james.weinberg@noaa.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

For further information, please visit the NEFSC website at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov>.

For additional information about the SARC meeting and the stock assessment review of Atlantic surfclam, please visit the NMFS/NEFSC SAW webpage at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/saw/>.

**DAILY MEETING AGENDA – SAW/SARC 61 Benchmark Stock Assessment for Atlantic Surfclam (Subject to Change. All times are approximate, and may be changed at the discretion of the SARC Chair.)**

*Tuesday, July 19, 2016*

10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Welcome Introductions	James Weinberg, SAW Chair
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Surfclam Assessment Presentation	Dan Hennen
12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	Lunch	
1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Surfclam Presentation (cont.)	Dan Hennen
3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Break	
3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Surfclam SARC Discussion	Michael Wilberg, SARC Chair
5:45 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Public Comment Period	

*Wednesday, July 20, 2016*

9 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Revisit with Presenters	SARC Chair
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10:45 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Break	
11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Revisit with Presenters	SARC Chair
11:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Public Comment Period	
12 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch	
1:15 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Review/Edit Assessment Summary Report	SARC Chair
4 – 4:15 p.m.	Break	
4:15 p.m. – 5 p.m.	SARC Report Writing	SARC Chair

*Thursday, July 21, 2016*

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	SARC Report Writing	SARC Chair
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The meeting is open to the public; however, during the ‘SARC Report Writing’ sessions on July 20 and 21, the public should not engage in discussion with the SARC.

**Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to Sheena Steiner at the NEFSC, 508-495-2177, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 10, 2016

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Emily H. Menashes,  
Acting Director,  
Office of Sustainable Fisheries,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

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